

TODAY and TOMORROW

by FRANK PARKER STOCKBRIDGE

TELEVISION . . . hopes
For years radio engineers have been dreaming of the day when folk will be able to see as well as to hear over the radio. Thousands of research workers have been trying to find the practical way to project light as well as sound by the use of the ether waves. In the laboratories, some remarkable results have been achieved. Still unsolved are the questions of cost and of the distance to which motion can be projected.

The Radio Corporation of America announces that it will spend a million dollars on commercialized experiment. A transmitter will be set up in the tower of the Empire State building and a dozen or more receiving sets placed in several nearby spots.

The day will come—I believe it will come—when people can sit in their homes and twist the dial to see a baseball game or a horse race or a prize fight. Long before that, some theatres will be equipped to show such scenes of the screen while they are actually happening. But even that is a long way off.

ENGINES . . . improvement

I hear interesting reports of new types of engines which may revolutionize the automobiles of a few years hence. One big concern has been experimenting with a "hot-spot" engine, using a mixture of gasoline and alcohol for fuel. A "hot-spot" engine is one that depends upon high compression to ignite the charge; it has no spark plug or ignition system and uses electricity only for starting and lighting.

I heard the other day that another car builder is developing an engine to operate on acetone gas. You

in calcium carbide, which in turn is made by mixing coke and lime in the electric furnace. The "presto-lite" that used to be used for car headlights was compressed acetone carried in small tanks.

I don't know how soon cars equipped with either of these new engines will be on the market, but the fact that they are being talked of is another proof that nothing stands still. How silly for anybody to imagine that it would be either possible or desirable to standardize development at any given point.

COMFORT . . . being attained

Twenty odd years ago I proposed a plan for making the guests in the first hotel built at El Centro, California, comfortable. El Centro is in the Imperial Valley, 66 feet below sea level, and the thermometer goes up above 100 degrees and stays there. My scheme was to put in an artificial ice plant and circulate water through pipes like a steam-heating system, in every bedroom.

The other day I saw in a New York paper that not only the Barbara Worth Hotel in El Centro but many other hotels throughout the country are installing air-conditioning systems in their guest rooms. So are hundreds of small-town movie theaters, the big city movie houses have long had such aids to comfort. Many office buildings have part or all of the office space similarly protected against excess heat and humidity.

I have touched on this subject in this column before. Air-conditioning is a big and growing industry, with more than 100 concerns in it now. It is one of the things that is going to lift us out of the depression.

RESEARCH . . . new industries

A couple of weeks ago a conference was held at Dearborn, Michigan, in which eminent industrialists, scientists and farmers took part. It was called a "Chemurgic" conference, the word meaning, roughly, putting chemistry to work. The purpose was to find new ways to adapt the products of the farm, or products that could be grown on farms, to industrial use.

In that line of research the Associate of State Universities, including the Land Grant colleges, has pointed out that the major developments in the application of scientific methods in agriculture have been the results of research conducted in those tax-supported institutions.

All the folk who talk about stopping where we are and not trying to go any further in any direction—of standardizing everything at its present status—are talking plain foolishness. Out of the research laboratories are coming, almost every day, discoveries which are the seeds of new industries for the future, and which will eventually make life easier, richer and happier for everybody. Who wants to stop that?

CAPITAL . . . unhampered profits

A headline in a New York paper the other day reads: "\$76,418,490 Is Sought in New Securities." I looked over the list of important business concerns which are asking permission of the Federal Securities Commission to sell bonds to raise capital. A large part of this new capital is being sought for the very purpose I have just been talking about in this column; that is, to finance new industries based upon new scientific and

STATE WILL RENT BOOKS NEXT YEAR

North Carolina Pioneer in Rental Book Plan. Superintendent Erwin Declares.

The General Assembly paved the way for a State-wide system of school book rentals while, unless some other State gets one going first, will be a pioneer in the field in the nation, states Clyde A. Erwin, State superintendent of public instruction.

The new law provides that a commission of five members, with the superintendent of public instruction as ex officio chairman, shall be created to be known as the "State Textbook Purchase and Rental Commission." The attorney general, director of purchase and contract and two persons to be appointed by the Governor will round out the commission.

An appropriation of \$1,500,000 is made from the "public revenues" for the purpose of starting the system and the treasurer and council of state are authorized to issue short term notes to get up to \$1,500,000 more if that amount should be needed.

The commission is authorized to promulgate all the necessary rules for proper functioning of a school book rental system. It can buy or contract for textbooks and instructional supplies, provide its own system of distribution "without the use of any depository other than some agency of the State," provide for a uniform rental charge not to exceed one-third of the cost of the books or supplies, provide absolutely free texts for indigent children, and provide books so that they shall not be used interchangeably between children of the white and colored schools. Any county or city having a textbook rental plan may continue to operate it, provided the rental charges do not exceed those to be fixed by the state.

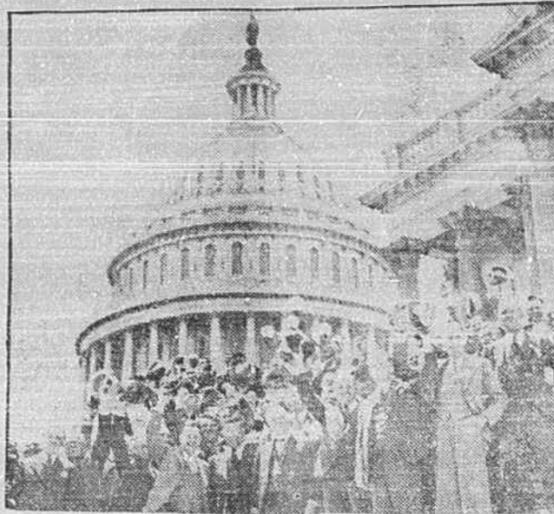
A new purebred Hereford bull has been purchased by the county commissioners of Avery County.

There is plenty of capital looking for investment, but its holders want to put it where they have a chance to make important profits; they are not interested in lending it at 5 or 6 per cent on the old-fashioned kinds of securities. Most of the rich men I know are looking for a chance to gamble for big money by putting up capital to commercialize the "new things" which will be the big money-makers of the next few years.

I think that private capital will loosen up whenever it is shown a fair chance of big profits unhampered by the fear that the Government will confiscate profits, if they are realized.

CHEER AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM

Four Thousand Farmers March to Capital to Shout Their Approval of President Roosevelt's Administration.



WASHINGTON, D. C.—Above are shown a group of the 4,000 farmers from agriculture sections throughout the country who marched on Washington to shout their approval of the Administration's AAA program, hear President Roosevelt lambast by enemies and professional molders slandering crocodile tears and to name a committee to plan a new national agrarian organization.

Primary Race In State Chief Topic At Capital

(Continued from Page 1) Labor reformers had their salaries returned to pre-depression figures of \$4,500 a year. These salaries are expected to be increased at even in the coming year, and the efforts made by some of the State officials to get the salaries of their offices increased may have to turn over the benefits to their successors. They have thrown the field open more by those increases.

Stanley Winborne, utilities commissioner, is also expected to be without opposition, although he has in the last a dozen years he has held State office, been in as many contests to hold it. He considers a contestless nomination too good to be true.

Of course, the General Assembly raised salaries of most of these officials, making the plum more desirable. Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor, Utilities Commissioner and Superintendent of Education will get \$6,000 a year after the next inauguration. Insurance, Agriculture and

us of the 18 counties and two townships to the Supreme Court, and that body probably will not act until next fall. The Attorney General is expected to rule on the wine law and bets on that he will hold it legal and constitutional, except probably the provision that only domestic wines can be sold in the State. That might violate the Interstate Commerce Act.

Meanwhile, up to Saturday, 10 of the 18 counties had set dates for elections on whether or not they will have legal liquor, and another, Nash, was expected to call an election Monday. The United Dry Forces may seek a restraining order to prevent elections, but if elections carry, may seek to constrain officials from putting the law into effect. In either case, the contest would have to go to the Supreme Court for final decision, and, as stated, that may be next fall.

Liquor and wine continue prominent topics of conversation.

REYNOLDS CASES

The North Carolina Supreme Court heard arguments for two days last week and took another under advisement the "family agreement" settlement of the \$28,000,000 estate of the late Smith Reynolds, left in trust by his father, R. J. Reynolds, tobacco magnate. The settlement had been approved by Superior Court Judge Clayton Moore.

It provides that 37 1/2 per cent of the estate, about \$10,500,000, go to Anne Cannon Reynolds II, first child of Smith Reynolds, and to maternal heirs if she dies before 1939. Christopher Smith Reynolds, son, was to receive 25 per cent, about \$7,000,000, going to maternal heirs if he dies before 1939 and \$750,000 to his mother, Libby Holman Reynolds. Another 37 1/2 per cent would go to sisters and brother of Smith Reynolds to establish a charitable trust, while the State would receive \$2,000,000 as inheritance tax. Appeals were taken from this by Mrs. Anne L. Cannon, co-guardian of Anne Cannon Reynolds, II, her remarried and divorced daughter, Anne Cannon Reynolds Smith, and the Safe Deposit and Trust Company, Baltimore, trustee of the Reynolds estate. The court gave no intimation of when a decision might be expected, but probably not

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

School superintendents are asked by State Superintendent Clyde A. Erwin and W. F. Credle, schoolhouse planning director, not to wait longer to get in preliminary applications for PWA funds for school plan improvements. The present form may be changed, but should be filed at once. Suggestions to help applicants are sent to superintendents, who may secure aid from the State superintendent or from Dr. H. G. Baily, State engineer, Chapel Hill. Several projects have been completed and are very satisfactory, Mr. Erwin points out.

MAY SWAP STUDENTS

The German Consulate at Charleston, S. C., is seeking to get exchanges of North Carolina high school students for German students, the Tar Heels spending six months in Germany and the Germans spending six months in the State, according to a letter received by State Superintendent Clyde A. Erwin. He advises high school principals who may know of boys interested to communicate with him.

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